

REMARKS

The Office Action of September 23, 2004 has been carefully considered. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested as the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 10-15, 18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6113208 to Benjamin et al.

Claims 1-4 and 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Benjamin in view of U.S. Patent No. 6181885 to Best et al.

Claim 16 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Benjamin in view of Publication No. 2001/0003827 to Shimura.

In response, Applicants have amended the claims for further clarification.

Claims 1-9, 10-14, 17-19 stand rejected under a double-patenting rejection over U.S. Patent No. 6,584,290 to Kurz et al.

In response, Applicants respectfully traverse the double-patenting rejection. Applicants respectfully request abeyance of the double patenting rejection with respect to U.S. Patent No. 6,584,290 until there is an indication of allowance of the claims. It is respectfully submitted that the claims 1-20 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment, however, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney (or agent) hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is hereby authorized to call Andrew D. Ryan, at Telephone Number 585-422-8085, Rochester, New York.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew D. Ryan
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 39,351
(585) 422-8085

ADR:ez

December 13, 2004
Xerox Corporation
Xerox Square 20A
Rochester, NY 14644